

Approved For Release 1999/09/09 : CIA-RDP82-00457R000260065001-4

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Syria/Lebanon

DATE DISTR. 25 APR 1949

SUBJECT Arms Traffic to the Kurds of the Jazirah

• NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE 25X1A
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO: 11/11/1964

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. Muhyi-al-Din Shatilla and Muhammad Yammut,* one of Lebanese Prime Minister Riyad Sulh's followers, are purchasing arms from Palestinian refugees and members of the disbanded Liberation Army to sell to the "Association of Kurdish Independence." During February and March 1949 they delivered large amounts of various unspecified arms to agents of the Association at the town of al-Hassiyah, a town headed by 'Abd-al-Jajid Suwaydan,** who is of Kurdish origin. Al-Hassiyah is located in Homs Province, on the Syrian-Lebanese border. The arms are received there, either by Muhammad 'Ali Ibrahim Pasha,*** a leader of the Milli tribe in the Jazirah, or by Arif Ba'dini, one of the Kurdish leaders in Kurd Dagh, in Aleppo Province.
2. 'Umar Agha Zilfo**** and Manduh Salin,***** Secretary of the Khoybum Society in Damascus, also bought large quantities of arms from volunteers in the Liberation Army and forwarded them to "their friends, the Kurds of the Jazirah," via Palmyra, Syria. Zilfo and Salin are paying Khalid Shallaq* and Husayn Tallo a considerable sum of money to assist the Kurds, source states.

25X1A

* [REDACTED] Comment. Muhammad Yarnut and a Khalid Shallag were reported in 1947 and 1948 as arms smugglers.

25X1A

██████████ Comment. 'Abd-al-Hajid Suwaydan is probably identical with Hajid Agha Suwaydan, reported in 1943 to be selling Syrian army rifles from the village of "Nassah" which belonged to his sons, and with Qasim Agha Suwaydan, who was reported by an untested source in 1947 to be smuggling arms to the village of Habbayah for the Kurds in Syria.

25X1A

*** [REDACTED] Comment. Reports received since 1946 indicate that Muhammad Ali Ibrahim Pasha is pro-Soviet. For a recent report of his activities, see [REDACTED] 25X1A

25X1A

25X1A

*** [REDACTED] Comment. 'Umar Agha Zilfo is possibly identical with 'Ali Agha Zilfo or Muhammad Agha Zilfo, reported to be pro-Soviet Kurdish leaders in Danasus.

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~

[illegible]

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class.

~~SECRET~~ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

25X1A

**** ~~_____~~ Comment. Manduh Salin, a prominent Kurd, was fairly reliably reported by several sources in 1948 to be actively pro-Soviet and to be meeting with Soviet officials. An untested source in October 1948 reported him to be the head of an intelligence network for the Soviets, of which Umar Agha Zilfo (see above) was said to be a member.

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET~~